



*SUPERIOR COURT OF
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COUNTY OF SOLANO*

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Press Release

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EMPLOYEE RECEIVES HENRY BERGH AWARD

The Superior Court of California, County of Solano is pleased to announce that Ms. Courtney Tindall McClain is the 2013 recipient of the Henry Bergh Award for the Practitioner of the Year, given by the Children's Network of Solano County.

The mission of the Children's Network of Solano County is to improve the lives of children in Solano County through education, advocacy, coordination of community services and community-based collaboratives.

The Henry Bergh Award is presented in recognition of exemplary work by a practitioner in the area of advocacy to protect children from abuse and neglect.

Henry Bergh was the head of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York City in the 1860's. Mr. Bergh successfully pressed for a conviction in the child abuse case of Mary Ellen because there were laws protecting animals, but not children like the victim, Mary Ellen.

Ms. Tindall McClain has been a Dependency Drug Court (DDC) Case Manager for the past 7 years. In this role, Ms. Tindall McClain works closely with parents in DDC to get them the treatment and assistance they need to become healthy and sober and to maintain relationships with their children. According to the Honorable Robert C. Fracchia, presiding judge of the juvenile court, "Courtney has been devoted to the prevention of child abuse through effective treatment and intervention for individuals for whom substance abuse is the primary factor contributing to their child's presence in the dependency court system."

Upon learning of the award, Ms. Tindall McClain said, "I see this work as a privilege and an honor to guide parents to be clean and sober, which is not an easy journey. When I first was involved with the system, it didn't make sense to me that someone could come in to your home and take your child from you because of a substance abuse problem. I founded the Women's Recovery Alliance 11 years ago as a way to help women as they recovered from their addictions and to get their children back. I feel like I'm part of change in our community and that I have been given a great opportunity to walk with parents and children on this journey."

Ms. Tindall McClain served as a representative of former Solano County Supervisor Barbara Kondylis on the Solano Partnership Against Violence for three years.

The award will be presented to Ms. Tindall McClain on May 7, 2013, at 11:30 a.m. in the Solano County Board of Supervisors chambers.